_AMD13_064

Comment Date: 4/6/07

Jessie White

From: Jim Scholl [jim_scholl@dot.state.ak.us]

Sent: Friday, April 06, 2007 3:48 PM

To: 'Jessie White'

Subject: FW: Lynn Canal Highway

Please log in. Thanks!

From: Tim Whiting [mailto:twhiting@gci.net]

Sent: Friday, April 06, 2007 2:40 PM **To:** DOT_STIP@dot.state.ak.us **Subject:** Lynn Canal Highway

I was born and raised in Juneau and have 59 years here. I worked for the ferry system in 1966 and have used the system many times but the fact is that Juneau needs the road. The reliability of the ferrys has declined and will continue to do so, after all the ferries I worked on 50 years ago are still the backbone of the system and must be replaced soon but probably won't be replaced due to cost. The highway will accomplish many things, MUCH cheaper transportation, MUCH IMPROVED convenience, and will benefit the rest of SE as it will free up more ships for their convenience as well as provide back up ferries during breakdowns, groundings and fires which seem to occur regularly. The road will be used primarily during the spring, summer and fall freeing up ships that are needed most in the rest of SE Alaska.

Those that clain the road will be closed during certain periods fail to mention the Marine Highway is closed every day the ferry does not run, which is quite a few during the year.

The bottom line is the ferries are becoming too expensive to use and as I figure it the ridership per sailing is down as well as the amount of vehicles transported. Juneau has survived as an isolated community forever and I was raised in that environment but I don't believe Juneau can survive the future without a road system that will allow for a more affordable cost of living, including family vacations to Canada and the interior.

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